

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
October 7, 2013

Members Present: Douglas Baker, Mayor
Donna Fletcher, Deputy Mayor
Samuel Lyons
James Marshall
Jennifer M Horne
Ryan Rudegear
Garnet Wood

Members Excused: None

In Attendance: E. William Gabrys, City Manager
Tracy Jamieson, Deputy Manager
Brian Spaid, Esq., City Solicitor
Darla Hawke, Recording Secretary
Jeri Bolton, 1235 Otter Street
Abraham Worthington, 6155 US 322
The Rev. Holly Davis, St. John's Episcopal Church
David R. Lord, General Authority Chairman
Mathew Beith, Historic & Architectural Review Board
Jeremy Johnson, Venango Newspapers, Inc.

Mayor Baker called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA - Resolution No. 144

Mayor Baker added agenda item 5A "Robert Billingsley Request." Mrs. Fletcher moved to approve the agenda, as amended. Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Resolution No. 145

Mr. Wood moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 9, 2013, as presented. Mr. Rudegear seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PAY THE BILLS - Resolution No. 146

Mr. Wood moved to pay the bills as presented. Mr. Lyons seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ROBERT BILLINGSLEY REQUEST - Resolution No. 147

Mr. Billingsley advised Council that the Historical Society is planning to place a second marker, this one honoring General Alexander Hayes. It is to be placed at, or near, 1229 Buffalo Street. They would like to present the marker on May 5, 2014, the 150th anniversary of his death. He noted the marker would be the same as the previous one, which had been placed

honoring General Jesse Reno. Mr. Billingsley advised the marker would once again be made by Franklin Bronze and asked that the City budget \$2,000 towards the cost of the marker. Mr. Marshall moved to approve the expenditure of \$2,000 towards a marker honoring General Alexander Hayes. Mr. Wood seconded the motion. Mrs. Fletcher noted that the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) raised their own funds for a marker they placed on Elk Street and she felt, should Council donate these monies, they would be setting a bad precedent for the future. A vote was then taken on the motion which passed 4-2-1, with Mrs. Fletcher and Mr. Rudegeair voting "no" and Mr. Lyons, an employee of Franklin Bronze, abstaining from the vote.

CITIZENS' INQUIRIES

Mr. Lord reported that last Tuesday, October 1, the General Authority had met with the three parties interested in financing the upcoming sewer projects. He invited the members to attend their regular meeting tomorrow evening, at 7 PM, during which the Authority will discuss its options.

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

Resolution No. 148 - Mr. Rudegeair moved and Mr. Lyons seconded a motion to approve a certificate of appropriateness for siding and paint at **412 Twelfth Street**, as presented, and for a sign at **1190 Elk Street**, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 149 - The Rev. Holly Davis was in attendance to explain the request from St. John's Episcopal Church and to answer any questions. After some discussion, Mr. Wood moved and Mr. Rudegeair seconded a motion to approve a certificate of appropriateness to raze the structure at **515 Twelfth Street**, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF H.A.R.B. PROPOSED GUIDELINES

Mr. Beith, a member of the Historic & Architectural Review Board (HARB), advised Council that he felt, rather than approving the guidelines at this meeting, the public should be solicited for their input. Afterwards, HARB may decide to incorporate some of their suggestions into the guidelines. Mr. Wood and Mr. Rudegeair also had questions, concerning the guidelines document, that they would like to discuss with the HARB committee. Other members of Council noted they, too, would like more time to study the document. Mr. Wood suggested the guidelines be placed on the City's website for the public's review. Mr. Gabrys will obtain the document and have it placed on the website.

After confirming with Mr. Spaid that the sentence, *"Applicant and/or property owner must appear in person to have this application considered for review or application will be tabled until the next meeting."* was not in the ordinance, Mr. Rudegeair asked that it be removed from the application form.

ESTABLISH 2014 MEETING DATES - Resolution No. 150

Mr. Lyons moved and Mrs. Fletcher seconded a motion to approve the first Monday of each month at 7 PM for the 2014 Council meetings, with the exception of September and December when the meetings will be held on the second Monday. Motion passed unanimously.

PARADE & PARK REQUESTS - Resolution No. 151

Mrs. Fletcher moved and Mr. Wood seconded a motion to approve the following requests:

- October 10, 2013 • FHS Student Council • South Park, Liberty, West Park, Elk Streets & Bandstand Park • Homecoming Parade
- October 19, 2013 • Baker & Bellis Auctioneers • Corner of 8th & Elk Streets • Brumbaugh Auction

Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS**Manager**

- Advised that Hunter Hawke, a member of Boy Scout Troop 37, has refurbished Mayor's Island, at the intersection of Grant Street & Atlantic Avenue, for his Eagle Scout Project.
- Announced that Venango County will be holding an 'Electronics Collection Event' on Saturday, November 2, from 10 AM-2 PM, at the Cranberry Mall.
- **Resolution No. 152** - Requested Council authorize a \$25 dumpster placement permit fee be added to the fee schedule for dumpsters placed on the street and in City parking lots. Mrs. Fletcher so moved. Mrs. Horne seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Solicitor - none.

COUNCIL REPORTS**Mayor Baker**

- Complimented City and Chamber staff for another successful Applefest®. He reported he had received a lot of compliments from out-of-town visitors.

Mr. Wood

- Reported that the City Police were very visible and helpful during Applefest® and that City staff did an excellent job of keeping the trash cleaned up. He also noted that more picnic tables had been added and were well-used and felt the standup tables were also a nice addition.

- Asked the status of 1219 Liberty Street, which had been painted without HARB or City Council approval. Mr. Gabrys will discuss this matter with the Code Enforcement Officer.
- Asked the status of the Wiley Avenue Bridge work. Mr. Gabrys advised that the engineer has been hired. Work should begin in Spring of 2014.
- Reminded the public to get out and vote on Tuesday, November 5.

Mr. Rudegeair

- Also thanked City workers for doing an excellent job over the weekend.

Mr. Marshall

- Asked the status of the problems in the 1100 block of Chestnut Street area, which Mr. Speer had reported at the last meeting. Mr. Gabrys advised that City staff is working on taking care of the problems.

Mrs. Fletcher

- Felt City workers went "above & beyond" in keeping the parks cleaned up both during and after Applefest®; thanked all the volunteers that helped to make the festival another success; commended the Police Department for having all the downtown streets back open by 5:15 PM.

Mr. Lyons

- Asked if 25 mph speed limit signs could be placed on Hemlock & Linden Streets to deter speeders. Mr. Gabrys will take care of this matter.

ADJOURNMENT - Resolution No. 153

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Mr. Marshall moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 PM. Mrs. Fletcher seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Darla Hawke, Recording Secretary